

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 18, 2007. In view of the following representations, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the previous Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 24, 26, 29 and 32 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, each of claims 24, 26, 29 and 32 has been rewritten in independent form. Thus, these claims are now clearly allowable.

Further, independent claims 18, 30 and 33 have been amended to include the limitations of claim 27, which is now cancelled. Applicants note that, since claim 27 has previously been considered by the Examiner, the amendments to claims 18, 30 and 33 should not raise any new issue requiring further consideration and/or search.

On pages 2-3 of the Office Action, claims 18-22, 30 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawrylo. Also, claims 23, 25, 31 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawrylo in view of Powers et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0195297). However, due to the inclusion of the limitations of claim 27, the relevant rejection is set forth on page 4 where claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawrylo in view of Kurpiela (U.S. Patent No. 5, 579,979). Independent claims 18, 30 and 33, as amended, are believed to be allowable for the following reasons.

In the explanation of the rejection, the Examiner takes the position that:

"Kurpiela teaches a solder collet comprising a large contacting side (figure 2 and col 2 lines 45-61)."

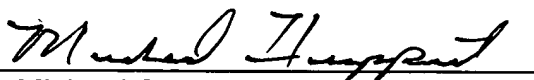
However, the contact surface of nozzle bottom 5 is not larger than the upper surface of the component 15 as clearly shown in Fig. 2 of Kurpiela. Further, the Kurpiela reference does not include any disclosure or suggestion of a collet having a contacting side that is larger than a contacting portion of the semiconductor laser component. Therefore, the limitations of claim 27 (now incorporated into independent claims 18, 30 and 33) are clearly not met by the Kurpiela reference, taken alone or in combination with Hawrylo.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the present application is now clearly in condition for allowance. The Examiner therefore is requested to enter the above amendment and pass this case to issue.

In the event that the Examiner has any comments or suggestions of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney by telephone to promptly resolve any remaining matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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